

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 GEORGE 01679 191900Z

43

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /031 W

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O 191744Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0324

C O N F I D E N T I A L GEORGETOWN 01679

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EIND, EMIN, GY

SUBJECT: GOG ANNOUNCES PRESS CONFERENCE ON BAUXITE

REF: GEORGETOWN 01653

1. GOG-PRESS ANNOUNCED TODAY (9/19) THAT MCNISTER OF ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES HUBERT JACK WILL HOLD PRESS CONFERENCE ON SATURDAY, SEPT. 21 AT 10:30 A.M. TO QUOTE MAKE AN IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT ON THE SUBJECT OF THE GUYANA BAUXITE INDUSTRY UNQUOTE. PRESS CONFERENCE WILL BE BROADCAST SAME DAY TO PUBLIC AT 7:30 P.M. EMBASSY INFORMATION OFFICER WILL ATTEND CONFERENCE.;

2. COMMENT. IT LIKELY THAT THIS WILL MARK BEGINNING OF PUBLIC AIRING OF REYNOLDS TALKS IN SUBSTANCE. EMBASSY SURMISES THAT CONTENT OF JACK'S REMARKS WILL BE BASED ON DECISIONS TAKEN BY BURNHAM SINCE OUR MEETING WITH JACK ON SEPT. 16. IF BAUXITE LEVY IS PUBLICLY SET IN CONCRETE, IT CLEAR THAT GOG GEARING FOR CONFRONTATION WITH USG. ALTHOUGH GOG POSITION IS PROBABLY NOW FIRM, THIS DOES NOT RPT NOT NECESSARILY MEAN ALL POINTS WILL BE ADDRESSED AT FORTHCOMING PRESS CONFERENCE. END COMMENT.

3. SINCE FOREGOING DRAFTED, WAGNER CAME IN TO TELL ME THAT JACK INFORMED HIM THIS MORNING THAT HE WOULD ANNOUNCE LEVY AT SATURDAY PRESS CONFERENCE. JACK GAVE NO RPT NO INDICATION AS TO AMOUNT. WITH JACK'S CONCURRENCE, WAGNER HAS INFORMED RICHMOND AND HAS AGREED TO RESPECT EMBARGO. JACK ALSO TOLD WAGNER THERE WOULD

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BE NO RPT NO REFERENCE TO NATIONALIZATION IN PRESS CONFERENCE STATE-

MENT.
KREBS

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Message Attributes

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